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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/782,820	02/23/2004	Koji Sudo	040071	5442
23850	7590	09/23/2004	EXAMINER	
ARMSTRONG, KRATZ, QUINTOS, HANSON & BROOKS, LLP 1725 K STREET, NW SUITE 1000 WASHINGTON, DC 20006			GRANT, ALVIN J	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3723	

DATE MAILED: 09/23/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/782,820	Applicant(s) SUDO ET AL. en	
	Examiner Alvin J Grant	Art Unit 3723	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>9/19/04</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.
2. Claim 5 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.
3. Claim 5 recites the limitation "the resistance elements" in line 4. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless —

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. **Claims 1-17** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sudo et al. '539.

Referring to claims 1-11, Sudo et al. discloses an apparatus comprising: a rotatable lapping surface plate (12), a movable housing (20) above the lapping surface plate, a jig member (26) secured to the housing and comprising a rigid member fixed to the rigid member for holding the row bar (126), the first pressing means for applying a pressure to the whole row bar, and a second pressing means for individually pressing portions of

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the elastic member corresponding to a plurality of magnetic head sliders of the row bar through the holes of the rigid member (Fig. 3, 14 and 15); the housing reciprocally moves in the radial direction of the lapping surface plate (Fig. 6); the elastic member is adhered to the rigid member (32); the jig is secured to the housing by screws; the pressing means comprises pins inserted in the holes of the rigid member and drive mechanisms for the driving pins; the drive mechanism includes an air cylinder and a transmission mechanism for transmitting the action of the air cylinder to the pin (column 6, lines 36-49); a control means for controlling the second pressing means depending upon a change in the resistance of the resistance elements (column 8, lines 1-24); the second pressing means comprises compressed air feeding means for introducing the compressed air into the holes of the rigid member (Fig. 1); the compressed air feeding means comprises a conduit connected to a source of compressed air and a control valve arranged in the conduit (column 6, lines 27-43); the housing has a plurality of holes in alignment with a plurality of holes of the rigid member, the holes of the housing being communicated with the holes of the rigid member; and the conduit is connected to each hole of the housing.

Referring to claims 12-17, Sudo et al. discloses a method of polishing a row bar including a plurality of magnetic head sliders, the method comprising the steps of: securing a jig including a rigid member having a plurality of holes and an elastic member fixed to the rigid member; holding a row bar by the jig, moving the housing above a lapping surface plate, turning the lapping surface plate to polish the row bar while pressing the row bar onto the lapping surface plate, measuring a change in the

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resistance of the resistance elements provided in the row bar, and individually pressing members of the elastic member corresponding to a plurality of magnetic head sliders of the row bar through the holes of the rigid member in response to a change in the resistance of the resistance elements provided in the row bar; the resistance elements provided in the row bar are connected to a relay board, and a change in the resistance of the resistance elements provided in the row bar is measured on the relay board; the resistance elements provided in the row bar are connected to the relay board through bonding wires; the bonding wires are bonded while holding the row bar between the jig and a holding plate; portions of the elastic member are pressed by pins inserted in the holes of the rigid member; and the portions of the elastic members are by compressed air introduced into the holes of the rigid member.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alvin J Grant whose telephone number is (703) 305-3315. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph J Hail can be reached on (703) 308-2687. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph J. Hail, III". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and a stylized "H".

ajg

Joseph J. Hail, III
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 3700